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Rural District Council
of
NORTON

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
W. WILSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

INCLUDING THE ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Sanitary Inspector
W. V. HARGREAVE, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
for the Year

1950



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NORTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1950.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

W. WILSON, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTOR (AND SURVEYOR) :

W. V. HARGREAVE, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE CERTIFICATES :

1. Sanitary Inspector.
2. Meat and other foods.
3. Sanitary Science as applied to buildings and public works.

CLERK :

MISS E. BOWES.

COUNCIL BUILDINGS,

SCARBOROUGH ROAD,

NORTON, MALTON.

Nov. 1951

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Norton.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District for the year 1950.

A glance at the Vital Statistics Tables shows that the Infant Mortality Rate was 54 per 1,000 registered live births, as compared with a rate of 29.8 for England and Wales. Of the six deaths of infants under one year, four were due to prematurity and one to congenital heart disease. While the rate this year is very much higher than that for England and Wales, the average for the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 is 34.1. This is explained by the fact that in 1948 the rate in the Rural District was much lower than the rate for the whole country. The corrected birth rate of 17.9 is above the average for the country, while the corrected death rate is lower than average.

One case of acute poliomyelitis occurred and resulted in a severe paralysis of the lower limbs. The only other cases of infectious disease notified during the year were of measles and whooping cough.

The Sanitary Inspector has drawn attention to the housing position in his report, and it is noted that eleven insanitary houses were demolished during the year.

In conclusion, I should like to thank all members of the staff for their co-operation and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. WILSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	94,132
Number of inhabited houses (estimate)	2,203
Registrar-General's estimate of population	7,320
Rateable value	£23,000
Sum represented by a penny rate	£92

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	47	56	103
Illegitimate	6	2	8
	—	—	—
	53	58	111
	—	—	—
Birth Rate	15.2 per 1,000		
Illegitimate rate	7.2% of total births		
Still Births	3		
Rate per 1,000 of the population	0.4		
Deaths of infants under one year	6		
Deaths of infants under four weeks	5		
Rate per 1,000 live births	54		
	M.	F.	Total
DEATHS	40	41	81
Death rate per 1,000	11.1		

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES DURING THE YEAR 1950.

	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths	Deaths of children one year of age, per 1,000 registered live births
	(Rates per 1,000 civilian population)			
England and Wales	15.8	0.37	11.6	29.8
126 C.B's and Great Towns including London	17.6	0.45	12.3	33.8
148 Smaller Towns	16.7	0.38	11.6	29.4
London Admin. County	17.8	0.36	11.8	26.3

TABLE OF BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

NORTON R.D.C.

Year	Crude Birth Rate	Corrected Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Corrected Death Rate	Infant Mortality
1948	20.6	—	11.5	—	13.6
1949	20.3	—	15.4	—	34.7
1950	15.2	17.9	11.1	10.1	54.0

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH IN NORTON R.D.C., 1950.

	M.	F.	Total
All Causes	40	41	81
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	2
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	1	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	1	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	2	7
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	8	12
18. Coronary disease, angina	8	3	11
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	2	5
20. Other heart disease	6	8	14
21. Other circulatory disease	1	3	4
22. Influenza	—	1	1
23. Pneumonia	—	1	1
24. Bronchitis	—	—	—
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	—	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	—	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	3	9
33. Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—
34. All other accidents	1	—	1
35. Suicide	—	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—

TABLE SHOWING AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS DURING 1950.

	M.	F.	Total
0—1 year	3	3	6
1—4 years	—	—	—
5—14 years	—	1	1
15—24 years	—	—	—
25—44 years	2	1	3
45—54 years	4	—	4
55—64 years	7	5	12
65—74 years	9	12	21
75 +	15	19	34
Totals	40	41	81

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Whooping Cough	46 cases
Measles	11 cases
Poliomyelitis	1 case

Cases of infections are admitted, when hospital treatment is necessary, to the Isolation Hospitals at York, Scarborough or Bridlington.

TUBERCULOSIS.

One new case of Tuberculosis (a pulmonary female) was notified during the year.

There were two deaths from Tuberculosis.

At the end of 1950, cases on the Tuberculosis Register were as follows :

Pulmonary Male	14
Non-Pulmonary Male	8
Pulmonary Female	6
Non-Pulmonary Female	12
Total	40

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

NURSING. A domiciliary nursing and midwifery service is now available throughout the district as part of the County Councils' Scheme under the National Health Service Act.

District Nurse Midwives are stationed at Norton, Ganton, Scagglethorpe and Wetwang.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. Bacteriological samples are examined at the Public Health Laboratories situated at Northallerton and Hull.

Routine samples of water are sent to the Laboratory at Hull for examination.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. Ambulances based at Scarborough, Filey and Malton are available, and a car for sitting cases is sited at Weaverthorpe.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS. Child Welfare Clinics are held each month at Sherburn and Rillington.

An Ophthalmic Clinic is held monthly in Norton.

Clinics for the treatment of venereal disease are held each week at York and Scarborough.

HOSPITALS. General medical and surgical cases are admitted to hospitals at Malton, Driffield, Scarborough and York.

Maternity cases to the Westow Croft Nursing Home, Westow.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. It has not been necessary to take any action under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water to the greater part of the district is supplied from four major regional schemes, as follows :—

Sherburn Regional	Sherburn, Willerby, Ganton, East and West Heslerton, East and West Knapton.
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Wintringham Regional	Wintringham, Rillington, Scagglethorpe, Scampston, Thorpe Bassett, North Grimston, Settrington.
Wharram Regional	Wharram, Duggleby, Kirby Grindalythe, East and West Luttons, Helperthorpe, Weaverthorpe, Foxholes.
Acklam Regional	Acklam, Scrayingham, Leppington, Westow, Howsham, Burythorpe, Langton.

Samples of water are submitted for bacteriological examination at intervals.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewers for the new sewage works at Westow are now nearing completion.

HOUSING.

Number of houses completed between 1945 and the end of 1950 :—

By Local Authority .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	214
By Private Enterprise .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Houses in course of erection at end of 1950 :—						
By Local Authority .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
By Private Enterprise .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT—AUGUST, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the Norton Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The year 1950 brought into being our first sewage disposal plant and sewerage scheme, and at the end of the year a commencement had been made disconnecting drains from the old sewer and re-connecting to the new. Our plans for the carrying out of closet conversions, it is hoped, will be completed during the next year, and it is hoped that some of our larger villages may soon be provided with sewerage schemes and disposal plants and so overcome the ever-present worry of dealing with the drainage from houses rapidly being provided with bathrooms and water closets.

It was hoped that great progress would have been made in the re-conditioning of some of the many unfit cottages in our villages, by applying the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949. This has, however, proved to be very disappointing, for in practice it has been found to be impossible to comply with the schedule of fitness in this Act for anything like the ceiling cost permitted. The long delay in reaching a decision as to whether a grant would be made or not, has also caused several prospective applicants to withdraw.

Building Licences to carry out work of reconstruction and repair have been reduced in the sum allocated, costs have risen and consequently less repair is being carried out; meanwhile our already large percentage of unfit houses is increasing yearly.

The Education Authority made a small effort to improve sanitary conditions at schools; it was hoped that by this time some substantial progress would have been made, as the need for improvement at several schools is urgent.

An effort is being made to clear some of the condemned houses, many of which are now becoming derelict; eleven were demolished during the year. An endeavour is made to co-ordinate the re-housing of persons in the new Council Houses with this work. Serious consideration might also be given to the possible re-development of cleared sites; in many cases it would be of advantage to use these sites, in order to keep the villages compact, and they would be of especial value in providing sites for bungalows for aged persons.

It is pleasing to record the continuance of the interest which you have shown to my work, and with which you have received my reports; my appreciation of this and my thanks are sincerely given. An excellent state of co-operation exists between my Department and Council Staff generally; this ensures smooth and pleasant working conditions.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully

W. V. HARGREAVE,

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Notices served :—

Informal Notices served	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Informal Notices complied with	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Statutory Notices served	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Statutory Notices complied with	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Letters sent out	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,263
Complaints received	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Complaints confirmed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Interviews	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90

Synopsis of Inspections made :—

Total number of inspections made	.....	.....	.....	1,015
Total number of inspections re-made	.....	.....	.....	65

Dwellinghouses :—

Water supply	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	94
Consolidated regulations	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Infectious disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Overcrowding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Clearance areas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5

Sanitary Conveniences :—	
Ashpits and privies	17
Waterclosets	1
Pail and chemical closets	12
Refuse Disposal :—	
Tips	25
Drains and Sewers :—	
Inspections	158
Cesspools and septic tanks	99
Water tested	29
Public urinals	4
Shops Acts :—	
Inspections	12
Factories :—	
With mechanical power	16
Without mechanical power	10
Outworkers	—
Building sites	21
Food :—	
Inspections	14
Condemnations	1
Food Storage, Preparation, etc. :—	
Butchers' shops	17
Dairies	15
Fish friers	22
Ice cream dealers	10
Miscellaneous :—	
Work in progress	17
New buildings	218
Movable dwellings	6
Ponds and watercourses	52
Rats and mice	10
Building licences	3
Petroleum licences	14
Schools	2
Animals and poultry	14
Public Houses	5
Town and Country Planning	69
Summary of Improvements carried out under the Public Health Act, 1936 :—	
Accumulations removed	6
Roofs repaired	4
Eaves spouts renewed	3
Drains and cesspools cleansed	4
Closets provided and repaired	1
Dustbin provided	2
Water supply	—
Summary of Improvements carried out under Housing Acts :—	
Walls and ceilings repaired	7
Fireplaces repaired	3
Wash coppers renewed	2
Lighting and ventilation improved	6
Roofs repaired	8
Floors repaired	12
Sinks provided	4
Yards paved	—

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919, AND THE INFESTATION ORDER,
1943.

No special infestation was noted, but infestations were once more found to persist at the Hunt Kennels and a minor infestation occurred at a Knacker's Yard.

Routine treatment of open ditches has been carried out as usual, although in only two cases was there much evidence of infestation. The refuse tips are remarkably free of rats; no doubt this is due to the fact that no organic matter is deposited.

SHOP ACT, 1934.

Twelve premises were inspected. No contraventions were found.

CAMPING SITES.

No sites are licensed as such, and only six movable dwellings are licensed, these being used as permanent dwellings.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are three Knacker's Yards within the District, fat melting is carried on at two of these, and the preparation of hound food at the third.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are no Slaughter-houses in use within the District. A large number of pigs are slaughtered annually for private use, but no notification of this is made to the Department, and therefore no details can be given.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Thirty-two persons in the District are licensed under this Act to slaughter animals.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No cases of bug infestation have been discovered.

SCHOOLS.

In two cases improvements have been carried out; one school has been provided with washing facilities and new drainage and another one with W.C.'s and washing facilities.

FACTORIES.

Forty-seven visits have been made under the Factories Act; no contraventions were observed.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	591
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	623
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 and 1932	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	168

2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers	56
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
(a)	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a)	by Owners	Nil.
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil.
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil.
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a)	by Owners	Nil.
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil.
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(2)	Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	11
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV—OVERCROWDING.

(a)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year (ascertained)	9
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	13
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	72
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil.
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	Nil.
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil.
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspector may consider it desirable to report	Nil.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

Owing to lack of staff it has, unfortunately, been impossible to continue this work. This is very much to be regretted as the records obtained by this survey, as far as it has progressed, have proved to be most useful on many occasions, irrespective of the fact that it is not possible to make any progress in carrying out work of improvement or replacement. The records can, if properly used, prove helpful in indicating the needs for new houses in the various parishes, and also the types of houses required. They also provide statistics respecting water supplies, drainage, sanitary conveniences, and overcrowded conditions.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY—REGISTRATION OF PERSONS AND PREMISES.

Number of premises registered as Dairies	3
Number of registered retail purveyors resident within the District	3
Number of registered retail purveyors resident outside the District	3
Number of inspections of Dairies	15

DESIGNATED MILKS.

The following licences have been granted by the District Council :—	
Sterilised (Supplementary)	1
Pasteurised (Supplementary)	3
Tuberculin Tested—Bottling	1
Dealers	1
Supplementary	2

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No slaughtering is carried out, excepting pigs for home use, and no carcasses have been inspected. Seventeen inspections of Shops and Butchers' Vans were carried out.

Sixteen 20 lbs. packages of Milk Powder were inspected and found to be unfit for consumption. These were surrendered voluntarily.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Registration of premises under Section 14 :—	
Ice Cream dealers	10
Ice Cream Manufacturers	Nil.
Meat Preparation	5
Fish Friers	4

WATER SAMPLES.

Sixty-two samples of water were submitted for Bacteriological examination. Sixteen were of raw water, six were satisfactory and ten unsatisfactory. Forty-six were of treated water, twenty-three being satisfactory and twenty-three being unsatisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

1. REFUSE COLLECTION.

The monthly collection of unburnable refuse has continued to function satisfactorily. The chief difficulty now is in procuring suitable sites for tipping; one has been procured this year in the Parish of Scampston, and one is now required for the Sherburn Area.

2. SEPTIC TANKS, CESSPOOLS, ETC.

The amount of time devoted to the cleansing of Septic Tanks and Cesspools does not grow any less and it is to be hoped that some of our Sewerage Schemes will soon be approved and proceeded with.

3. OPEN DITCHES.

The appointment of a full-time man with transport has greatly increased the ease and efficiency in carrying out this work, and has also overcome the problem of maintaining the sewage disposal plant at Westow, which was opened this year.



